

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:

David C. BAULCOMBE et al.

Application No.: 10/806,253

Filed: March 22, 2004

For: GENE SILENCING

Confirmation No.: 1920

Art Unit: 1635

Examiner: Amy Hudson Bowman

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Commissioner:

This is in response to an Office action herein, mailed 15 May 2009, time for response to which was set to expire 15 August 2009. The examined claims, claims 32, 35-37, 41, 49 and 66, were rejected. Applicants appreciate the withdrawal of the rejections previously made and address the outstanding rejections below by amendment and further discussion.

Applicants are particularly grateful for the consideration given their undersigned representative and their in-house Counsel, Gerard Bencen, in a telephone interview on 27 August. Applicants especially appreciate the helpful suggestion for amendment to claim 1 that appears to resolve the outstanding rejections. Reconsideration in light of this amendment and the following Remarks is respectfully requested.

**Enclosures included in attached IDS**

1. Hamilton, A., *et al.*, *EMBO J.* (2002) 21:4671-4679
2. Overhoff, M., *et al.*, *Nucleic Acids Res.* (2004) 32:e170
3. Babiarz, *et al.*, *Genes & Development* (2008) 22:2773-2785
4. Watanabe, *et al.*, *Nature* (2008) 453:539-544
5. Sontheimer and Carthey, *Cell* (2005) 122:9-12